Dear Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Ref: Oppose SB 1148

I am writing this to express my strong opposition to SB 1148 which would legalize the hunting of bears in the state of Connecticut. Studies show that hunting does not reduce human-bear conflicts. Rather these conflicts decline when attractants are removed. This can include using bear proof trash cans, removing bird feeders during peak times of the year and protecting beehives, chickens and crops with electric barriers. CT residents want humane resolutions to conflicts with wildlife. There are well proven solutions that focus on community based attractant removal and public education. Please support these proven strategies and oppose the bear hunt in SB 1148.

Thank You,

Henry Petrofsky 131 Four Rod Road Kensington, Ct 06037